

will make innovations like plug-in hybrid vehicles even more promising.

It improves the loan guarantee programs to the Department of Energy, and it makes the largest investment in our history in biofuels, along with other things which will move forward and see to it that the infrastructure is there to provide the necessary service.

Some of our Members are unhappy with what is not in the bill; some of them are unhappy with what is in the bill. I would observe that we will be having additional legislation which we are contemplating bringing forth from the Energy and Commerce Committee in the month of September which will address a large number of questions not now before the House, including the question of global warming in all of its aspects.

These controversies have been avoided so that we could produce a consensus bill that will pass the House and the Senate and be signed into law by the President. That bill is before us at this time, and it merits our support.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS), a distinguished member of the committee.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Chairman, I'm going to count to 10 and make sure I'm calm and deliberative. I do appreciate my friends on the other side.

Throughout the process in our committee, numerous times I've heard the promise that we will have coal provisions in the Greenhouse Gas Bill this fall, and I think we kind of heard it again today. I am skeptical. I am a doubter. I don't believe it will happen. That's why I'm upset about the bill today.

We just heard Education and Workforce people talk about jobs. I'll talk about jobs; coal-to-liquid jobs. One coal-to-liquid refinery that produces 80,000 barrels of coal-to-liquid, a thousand jobs, 2,500 to 5,000 construction jobs, 15 million tons of coal per year, and up to 500 coal mining jobs. Those are real jobs with great benefits and great wages.

Energy security. We have our soldiers deployed in the Middle East, and they've been there for a lot of reasons for many, many years. I think it was Carter who said the Persian Gulf region was an important national security interest. Why? We know why. Crude oil. How do we decrease that importance of the Persian Gulf region? We move to coal-to-liquid technologies, our coal fields to a coal-to-liquid refinery, through a pipeline to fuel our aviation assets that the Department of Defense really wants.

What is wrong with this bill? Everything. No soy diesel. No renewable fuel standard. No ethanol. No renewable fuel standard. No coal. No alternative fuel standard. Nothing on nuclear energy. No expansion. There is no supply in this bill. Defeat this bill.

Mr. BOUCHER. Mr. Chairman, we continue to reserve our time.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time at this time.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself 1 minute.

Mr. Chairman, title VII of the pending legislation is the Energy Policy Reform and Revitalization Act of 2007, which was produced by our Committee on Natural Resources. The fundamental premise behind this title of H.R. 3221 is that we must restore accountability and integrity in the Federal onshore and offshore energy leasing programs and ensure that the public interest is upheld when it comes to managing energy development on Federal lands, while advancing alternative energy strategies, preserving coal's role in a global climate-sensitive world, and addressing the impacts on wildlife, coastal areas, and our oceans as a result of climate change.

There are many issues contained in this title, but at this time I would highlight subtitle D. That would initiate a framework for enabling our Nation to sequester carbon dioxide under the ground to ensure the future use of fuel, such as coal, in an environmentally responsible fashion.

We can talk about ethanol and other biofuels and wind and solar, et cetera, all we want, but the fact of the matter is that coal, which produces half of our electricity in this country, will continue to be a mainstay through the foreseeable future. At the same time, any of us representing coalfields in this country recognize that we must, as a Nation, aggressively pursue strategies and technologies to capture and store the carbon dioxide.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in the strongest opposition to this bill. This bill, as brought forth by the majority, will increase the energy costs to all Americans. It increases the imports more than we are now, where we are now at 67 percent, of foreign oil, sending dollars overseas to compete against us and actually raise the war of terror.

I am shocked that any union would ever support this bill. It will lead to the loss of jobs in all sectors of our economy. It is clearly the work of those, including the leadership on the other side, who do not appreciate the blessings of America's place in the world.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher once said, "Nothing is more obstinate than a fashionable consensus." This bill appears to be based on the consensus opinion that America is too wealthy, too strong and too influential in the world. The way we got there was to build the world's strongest economy by using the energy that God gave us.

The popular consensus of representatives of this bill is if we use less energy and make it more expensive then we can unilaterally reduce our impact on the world. I have news for those who believe this: Nature abhors a vacuum.

The U.S. has been the world's number one industrial economy since the Civil War. Since the Civil War. We got there by using our coal, our oil, our natural gas and our brains to create and use more energy to amplify human strengths to do more things than any other competitor on Earth. Along the way we became number one.

Now, for the first time since the Civil War, our Nation faces serious competition to our number one status from China and India. China just surpassed Germany to become the third-largest economy in the world. Experts believe that within 20 years they will overtake this Nation. And with this bill they will.

China already produces more CO₂ than we do, which is the logical outcome of the relentless race to use more energy, because they understand energy use means economic growth. They are our competitors. They import energy around the world. They consume over half of the cement in the world today building their economy for tomorrow.

So what does this bill do to prepare our Nation for competition? It tells us to turn the lights out. That is what this bill does.

Mr. Chairman, I fear for our Nation. I fear for our young people. I fear for a Congress that does not understand that to stay in number one requires more energy, not less. Energy is the power of life. I fear for a Congress that does not understand the history of our blessed place in this continent of the world. I fear for my children and my grandchildren because what you are doing here today is dead wrong. And anybody who says this is the right thing to do does not understand the energy policy at all.

President Ronald Reagan, who more than anyone understood the spirit that makes America great, often referred to our Nation as "the Shining City on the Hill." Mr. Chairman, I fear we are witnessing nothing less than an effort to turn off the lights in what Ronald Reagan referred to as "the Shining City on the Hill," because some believe we need to rest in our quest to make the world a better place. Our competitors in the world would like us to rest.

Mr. Chairman, this is a bad bill. There is no energy in this bill at all. We are faced with the ability not to have our ships float, our trains run, our cars drive and our trucks deliver because there is no energy in this bill. And I say shame on you.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Chairman, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3½ minutes to the gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. PEARCE).